

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraphs after the title and before the first paragraph:

Related applications

This application is a U.S. National Phase Application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT/GB2003/002836, filed July 2, 2003, which claims benefit of priority from U.S. Patent Application 10/485,655, filed October 9, 2003, and GB Patent Application 0215287.4, filed July 2, 2002. All three applications are hereby incorporated in their entireties as if fully set forth.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 54-55 with the following amended paragraph:

RT-PCR analysis

RNA was extracted from cells using RNazol B according to the manufacturer's instructions (Biogenesis, Dorset, UK), treated with DNase (Promega, WI, USA) and phenol/chloroform extracted. Synthesis of cDNA from mRNA transcripts was performed using the following method: RNA (10 µg), dNTP (250 µM), oligo dT (5.0 µg total; Promega, UK), AMV reverse transcriptase (40 units; Promega) in a total volume of 200 µL and incubated at 42 °C for 1 hour. Semi-quantitative RT-PCR of 5T4 was performed using 1 µl of the cDNA solution and 25-30 cycles. RT-PCR was performed using 5 µl of the cDNA solution and 35 cycles. Samples were run on 2% agarose gels containing 400 ng/ml ethidium bromide and visualised on a UV transilluminator. Since the fibroblast feeder layer contains 5T4 transcripts, MESC ES cells were grown for several passages on gelatin-treated plates to remove the fibroblast feeder cells prior to the extraction of RNA (Figure 14). Primers used were as follows (read 5' to 3'; forward-F, reverse-R): 5T4 F - aactgccgagtctcagatacc (SEQ ID NO:1), R - atgataccctccatgtgatcc (SEQ ID NO:2), 55 °C annealing temperature, 506bp; β-tubulin F - tcactgtgcctgaacttacc(SEQ ID NO:3), R - ggaacatagccgtaaactgc (SEQ ID NO:4), 55 °C, 317bp; Fgf-5 F - ggcagaagtgcgcgacgtt (SEQ ID NO:5), 55 °C, 200bp.

NO:5), R - tccgggttgctcgactgctt (SEQ ID NO:6), 50 °C, 537/515bp (Johansson and Wiles, 1995);
Bmp-2 F - gagatgagtggaaaacg (SEQ ID NO:7), R - gcagtaaaaggcatgatagc (SEQ ID NO:8), 55 °C, 606bp; ζ -globin F - gatgaagaatgagagagc (SEQ ID NO:9), R - agtcaggatagaagacagg (SEQ ID NO:10), 55 °C, 406bp; Oct 3/4 F - agaaggagctagaacagttgc (SEQ ID NO:11), R - cggttacagaaccatactcg (SEQ ID NO:12), 55 °C, 415bp; Rex-1 F - tgaccctaaagcaagacg (SEQ ID NO:13), R - ataagacaccacagtacacacc (SEQ ID NO:14), 54°C, 414bp.